



Judicial Conduct Commission Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2012-2013

Judicial Conduct Commission
P.O. Box 4266
Frankfort, KY 40604-4266
Phone: 502-564-1231
Fax: 502-564-1233

Commission Members

Stephen D. Wolnitzek, Chair
Covington

Judge Janet L. Stumbo
Prestonsburg

Judge Eddy Coleman
Pikeville

Judge Susan M. Johnson
Paintsville

Diane E. Logsdon
Elizabethtown

Joyce King Jennings
Louisville

Alternate Members

J. David Boswell
Paducah

Judge Laurance B. VanMeter
Lexington

Judge Linda Rae Bramlage
Burlington

Judge David P. Bowles
Louisville

Commission Staff

Ms. Jimmy Shaffer
Executive Secretary

J. Rachel Noyes
Executive Assistant

Judicial Conduct Complaints:

In the 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Commission considered 262 complaints—233 new complaints and 29 complaints carried over from the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

The Commission concluded 234 complaints, three of which resulted in imposed sanctions:

- **Two Private Reprimands:**
 - The judge exerted the influence of the judge's office in regard to the employment of certain individuals.
 - In a confidential juvenile matter pending before the judge, the judge contacted a third party not involved in the case about a matter related to the case.
- **One Public Reprimand** (Judge Timothy A. Langford)

Twenty-eight complaints were pending at the end of the fiscal year. Twenty-one complaints were received prior to the end of the fiscal year but too late to be considered before the first meeting in the new fiscal year.

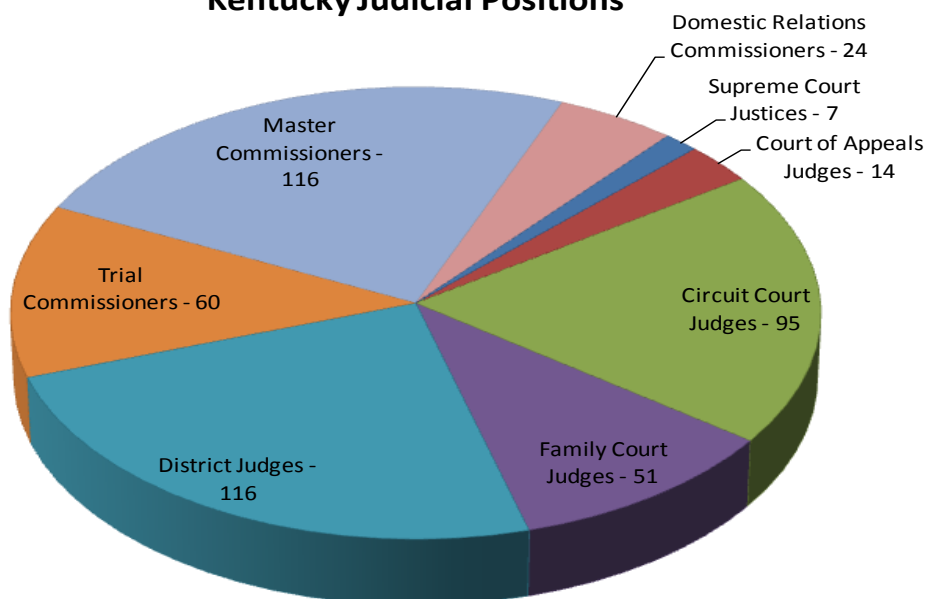
Jurisdiction:

There are 367 judicial positions in the Commonwealth of Kentucky within the jurisdiction of the Commission. Of 233 total complaints filed for fiscal year 2012/2013, 95 complaints were filed against circuit court judges of general jurisdiction, 60 were filed against circuit family court judges, and 52 were filed against district court judges.

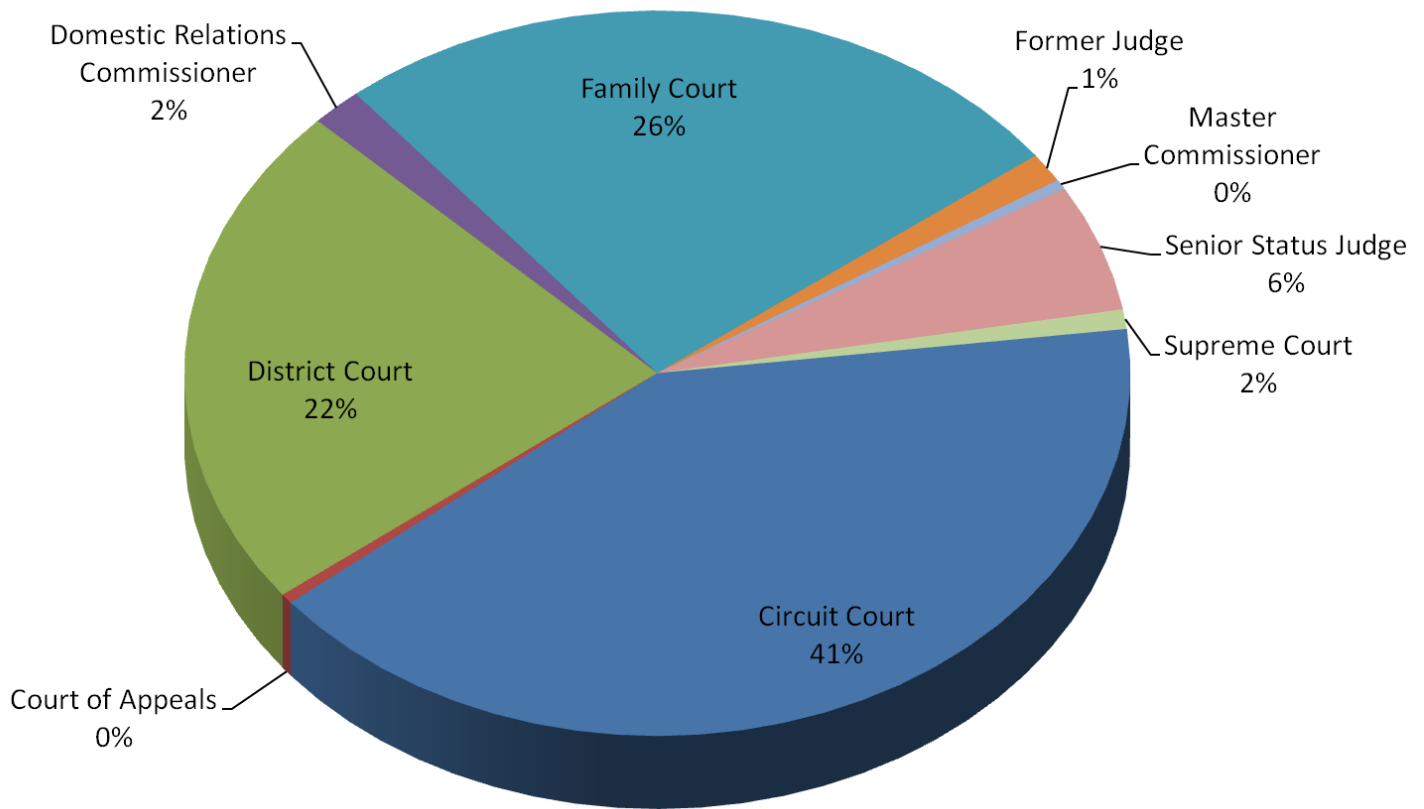
Complaints:

- **29** - Number of complaints pending at the beginning of the fiscal year
- **233** - Number of complaints received during the fiscal year
- **234** - Number of complaints disposed of during the fiscal year
- **28** - Number of complaints pending at the end of the fiscal year

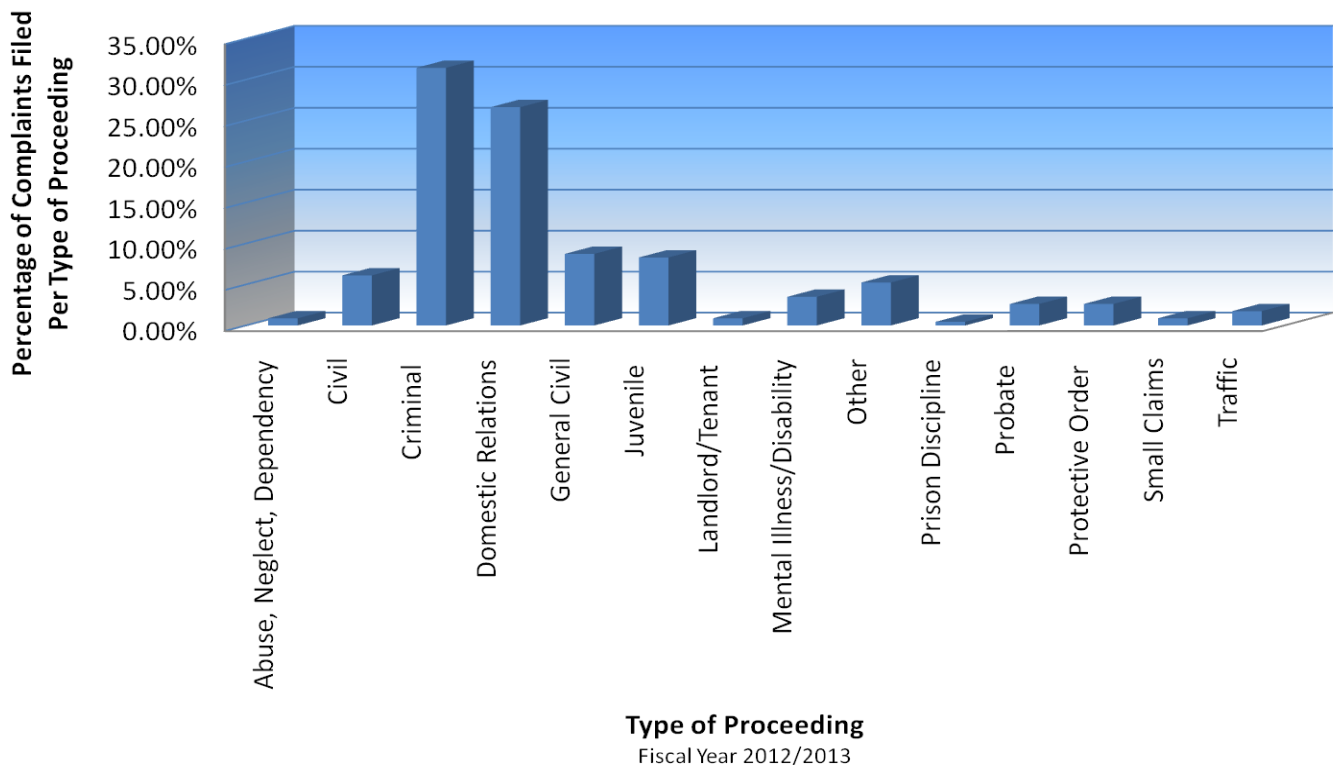
Kentucky Judicial Positions



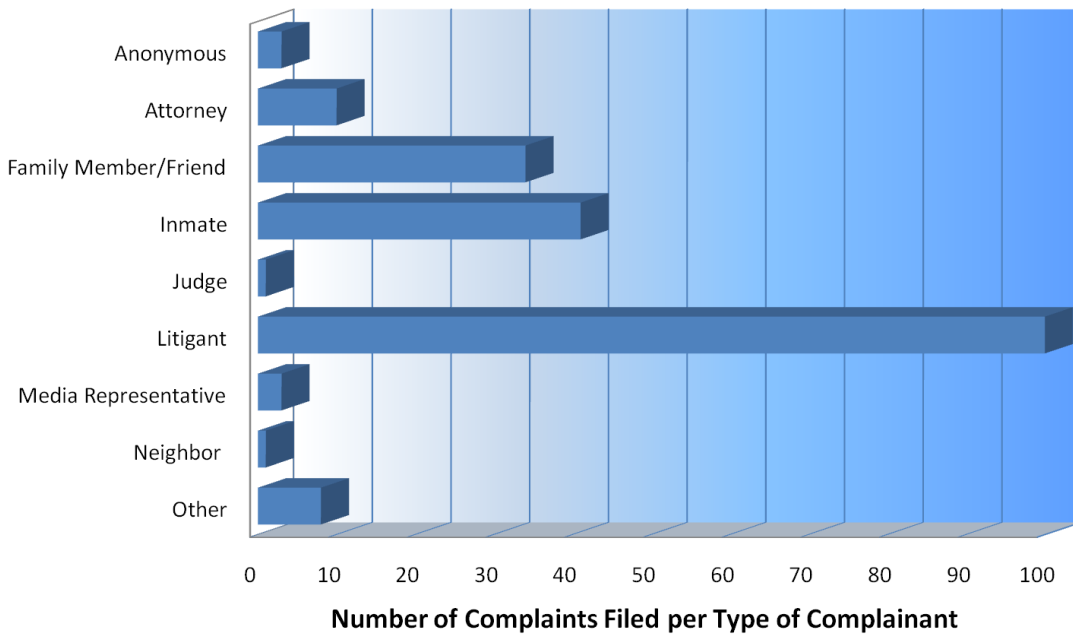
Percentages of Complaints by Judicial Position:



What Types of Proceedings Resulted in Complaints?



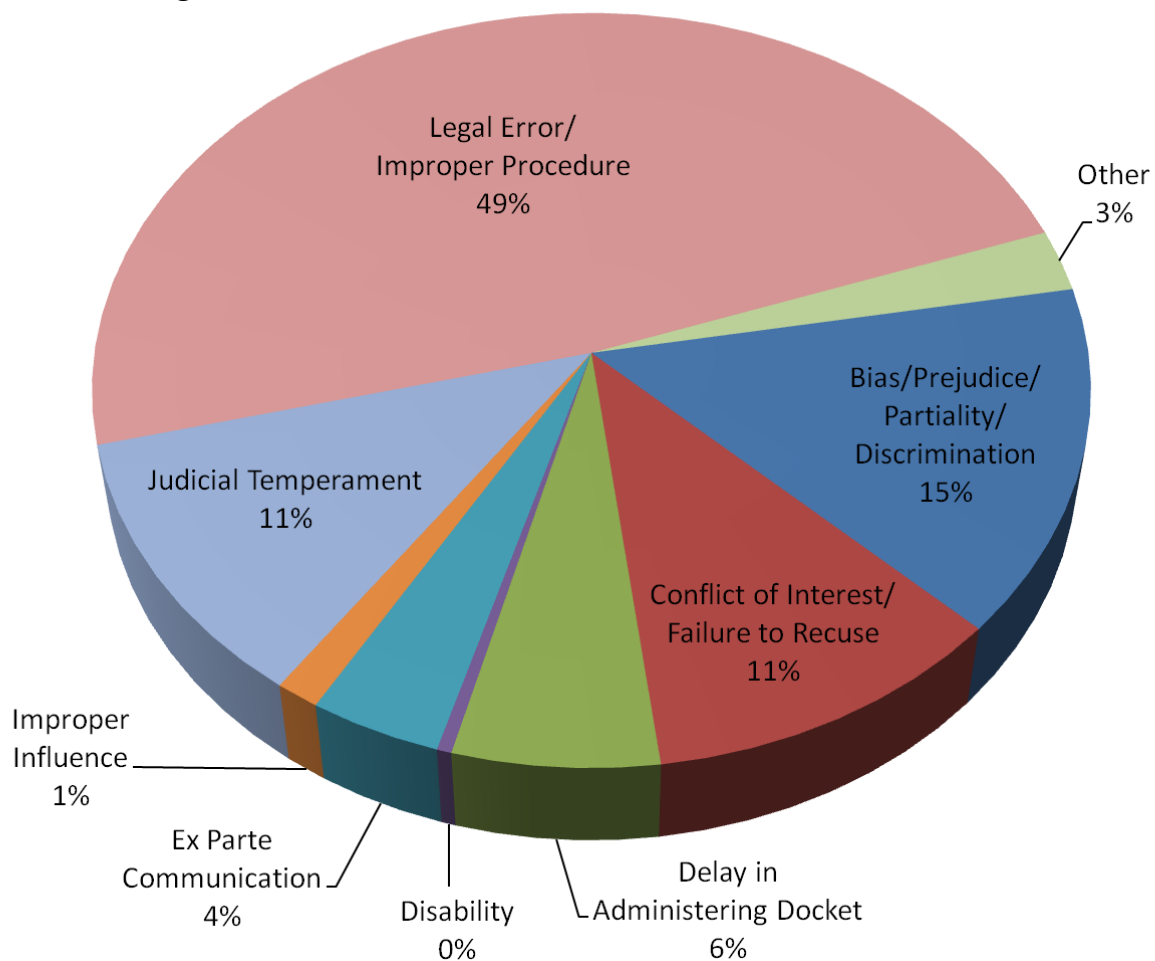
Who is Filing Complaints?

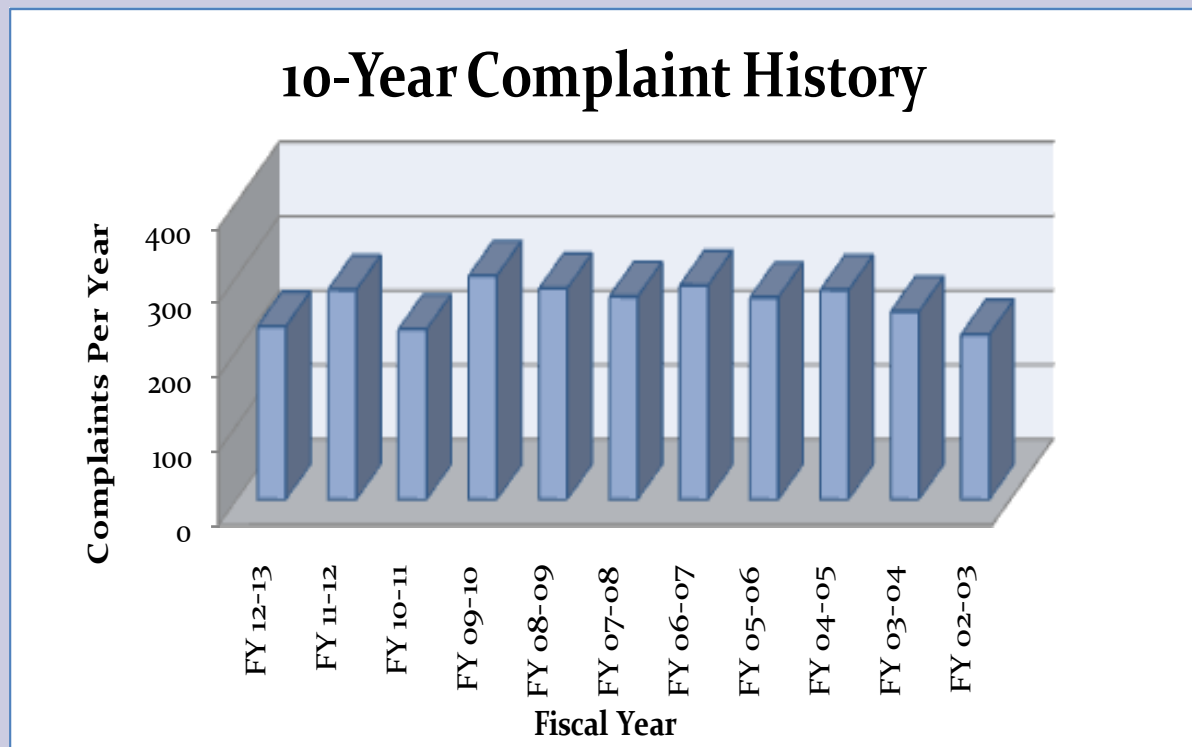


Complainant Representation in Court:

- 55.90% were represented by counsel
- 3.06% were represented by counsel, then appeared *pro se*
- 23.14% appeared *pro se*
- 14.85% unknown (unspecified in complaint)
- 3.06% not applicable (non-litigation)

What are the Allegations?





About the Judicial Conduct Commission

The mission of the Kentucky Judicial Conduct Commission is to protect the public, to encourage judges, commissioners and candidates for judicial office to maintain high standards of conduct, and to promote public confidence in the integrity, independence, competence, and impartiality of the judiciary.

The Commission accomplishes this mission through its investigation of complaints of judicial misconduct, wrongdoing or disability. In cases where judges, commissioners and candidates for judicial office are found to have engaged in misconduct or to be incapacitated, the Kentucky Constitution authorizes the Commission to take appropriate disciplinary action, including issuing admonitions, reprimands, censures, suspensions, or removal from office.

<http://courts.ky.gov/commissionscommittees/JCC>